

Under direction of the Judicial Conference of the United States and the Administrative Office of the Courts, federal district and bankruptcy courts have almost completed implementation of the federal judiciary's Case Management

and Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system. CM/ECF enables a registered user to submit case file documents in electronic format over the Internet.

What are the benefits to attorneys?

1. Quick Filing

CM/ECF enables an attorney to file a document directly with the court over the Internet. As soon as an attorney submits a document electronically, it is filed with the court. The attorney receives instant e-mail notice that the document has been filed. The attorney no longer has to wait and see when the document will be docketed or worry about whether it was lost. Also, except when courtesy copies are required, an attorney avoids fees for postage and courier services by filing documents electronically.

2. Convenient Filing

An attorney can file a document from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection. Also, the attorney can file documents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

3. Free and Easy Service on Other Parties

Other parties in a case who are registered users are automatically served when a document is submitted through CM/ECF so that no further service is necessary. An attorney avoids fees for postage and courier services by filing documents electronically.

4. Access to Court Documents at All Times from Anywhere

Attorneys and litigants have access to court documents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection through PACER.

5. Text Searchable Documents

Documents filed through CM/ECF that have been converted from word processing software to PDF are text searchable. Also, a filer has the ability to put hyperlinks to source documents in electronically filed documents.

6. It's Free

There are no additional fees for filing documents over the Internet using CM/ECF. State Bar of Texas accredited training on how to use CM/ECF and training materials are available at no charge. For information on how to obtain training, contact the district clerk's office at 214-753-2150.